

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

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SUBJ: CIVAIR: US AIRLINE DESIGNATIONS PURSUANT TO US-VENEZUELAN

BILATERAL

REF: STATE 151716

1. CITING STRONG ECONOMIC IMBALANCES ALREADY EXISTING IN FAVOR OF US CARRIERS AND THE NEED TO REDUCE RATHER THAN INCREASE THE NUMBER OF AIRLINES SERVING US-VENEZUELAN ROUTES, THE GOV IN A NOTE DATED JULY 7 (RECEIVED BY EMBASSY JULY 11) REFUSED TO ACCEPT DESIGNATION OF TWO US AIRLINES TO OPERATE ALL-CARGO SERVICE BETWEEN US AND VENEZUELA. INFORMAL EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF TEXT OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS NOTE NO. PE/T 7628 IS CONTAINED IN PARAGRAPH 2 BELOW.

2. THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE HONORABLE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND HAS THE HONOR TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF NOTE NO. 305, DATED JUNE 16,1978, WHICH ADVISES THAT THE ILLUSTRIOUS GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES HAS DESIGNATED THE COMPANIES AMERICAN AIRLINES, INC., AND AIRLIFT INTERNATIONAL, INC., TO OPERATE SEVERAL ROUTES OF SCHEDULE NO.1 OF AIR TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN VENEZUELA AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, SIGNED IN CARACAS ON THE 14TH OF AUGUST,1953, AS AMENDED, IN ADDITION TO THE OTHER TWO AIRLINES PRESENTLY COVERING SAID ROUTES AND REQUESTS THE ISSUANCE OF THE CORRESPONDING OPERATING PERMITS:
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THE GOVERNMENT OF VENEZUELA HAS THOROUGHLY EXAMINED THE ABOVE REQUEST AND HAS TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION THE FOLLOWING FACTORS:

1.. THE PREAMBLE TO THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION AGREEMENT, TO WHICH BOTH COUNTRIES ARE PARTY, ESTABLISHES THAT INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION SHOULD DEVELOP IN A SAFE AND ORDERLY MANNER AND THAT INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BE ESTABLISHED ON THE BASIS OF

EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY AND BE CARRIED OUT IN A HEALTHY AND ECONOMICAL WAY.

2. MEMORANDUM OF CONSULTATION SIGNED DECEMBER 21, 1971 AS A RESULT OF NEGOTIATIONS HELD DURING THE SAME YEAR IN CARACAS AND WASHINGTON, ESTABLISHED, IN PARAGRAPH (J), THE PRINCIPLE THAT IN THE AGREEMENT'S APPLICATION A BALANCED AIR TRAFFIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN BOTH COUNTRIES AND MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY RESULTS SHOULD BE ASSURED.

3. THROUGH THE LONG YEARS IN WHICH THE MENTIONED BILATERAL AGREEMENT HAS BEEN IN FORCE, THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT HAS INDICATED IN ALMOST ALL CONSULTATION MEETINGS ITS DESIRE OF MODIFYING IT, SO THAT THERE EXISTS ONLY ONE COMPANY DESIGNATED BY EACH OF THE COUNTRIES, WHICH WOULD THUS MAKE IT CONSISTENT WITH OTHER CONVENTIONS AND AGREEMENTS OF THIS TYPE SIGNED BY THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT.

4.. THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA HAS DESIGNATED TWO COMPANIES TO OPERATE THE ROUTES CONTAINED IN SCHEDULE NUMBER 1 OF THE AGREEMENT AND HAS BEEN DOING SO FOR MANY YEARS, AGAINST THE SOLE OPERATION OF ONE LINE ON THE PART OF VENEZUELA.

5. AS INDICATED BY VENEZUELA'S DELEGATION IN CONSULTATION MEETING HELD IN CARABALLEDA FROM MAY 31ST TO JUNE 2ND OF THIS YEAR, THERE EXISTS A GREAT IMBALANCE IN ECONOMIC RESULTS FOR THE CARRIER OF BOTH COUNTRIES, IN FAVOR OF THE UNITED STATES, ESPECIALLY WITH RESPECT UNCLASSIFIED

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TO FIFTH FREEDOM TRAFFIC WHERE THE VENEZUELAN STATE AND ITS AIR-LINE HAVE PREFERENTIAL RIGHTS.

6.. DURING THE SAME CONSULTATION MEETING, THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA REFERRED TO ITS GOVERNMENT'S INTEREST IN DESIGNATING THE COMPANIES INDICATED IN THIS NOTE'S FIRST PARAGRAPH TO OPERATE CARGO SERVICES BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND VENEZUELA AND THE VENEZUELAN DELEGATION INDICATED THE REASONS WHY IT DID NOT CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL AS ACCEPTABLE.

7.. THE GOVERNMENT OF VENEZUELA CONSIDERS THAT ONE COMPANY DESIGNATED BY EACH OF THE PARTIES FOR OPERATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, IS CONSISTENT WITH THE NEED OF THE VENEZUELAN NATION TO DEVELOP A PROSPEROUS NATIONAL AIR TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRY.

FOR THE AFOREMENTIONED REASONS AND IN ORDER NOT TO INCREASE THE ALREADY GREAT IMBALANCE BETWEEN THE OPERATIONS OF BOTH COUNTRIES' CARRIERS, THE GOVERNMENT OF VENEZUELA REGRETS THAT IT CANNOT ACCEPT THE DESIGNATION OF NEW NORTH AMERICAN COMPANIES TO OPERATE IN ROUTES ESTABLISHED IN THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT.

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AVAILS ITSELF OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE HONORABLE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THE ASSURANCES OF ITS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

CARACAS, JULY 7,1978.

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